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No. 1.

PERSPECTIVE VIEW

OF THE

CITY and MARKET TOWN

WITHIN THE

County of WORCESTER

TO WHICH IS ADDED

A Short Historical Account of each Parish

DRAWN and ENGRAVED

By THOMAS SANDERS

ENGRAVER and DRAWING MASTER

N. B. There will be given a Representation of the City of Worcester in the 1st Number

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A View of DROPTWICH, from Dodder hill.

Published as the Act directs. March 1790. And sold by Tho: Sanders Engraver Worcester.



A View of PERSHORE, from Pensham hill.

Published as the Act directs. Sep. 1. 1779. And sold by J. Moxon, Enginner, Worcester.

P E R S H O R E;

So called, as some imagine, from the Shores of the Avon, and the Pear Trees which grow plentifully in this Neighbourhood.

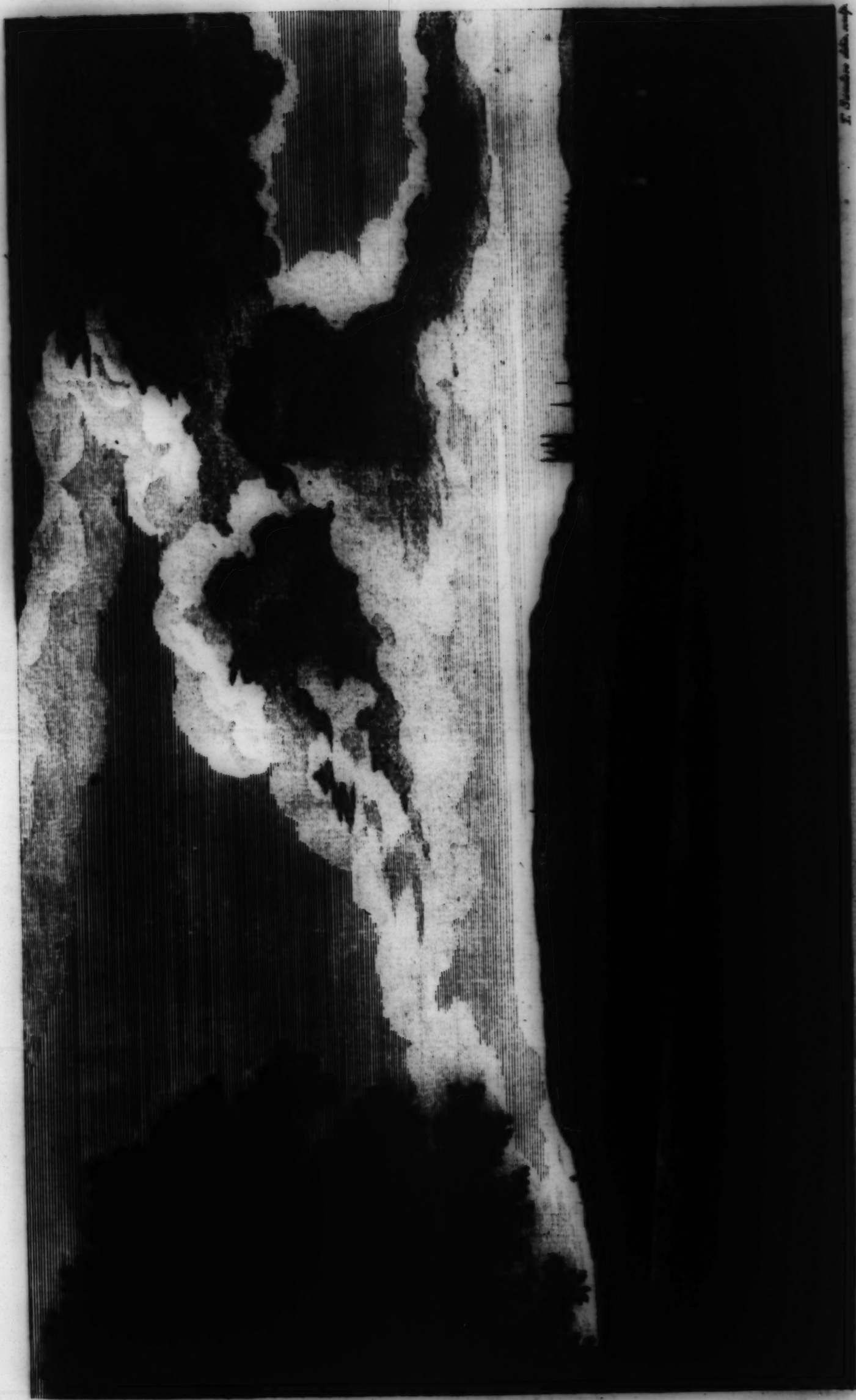
THE town gives name to one of the hundreds of the county ; is very pleasantly situated on the bank of the river Avon, and consists principally of one handsome street. It is much improved and increased of late years, containing at present 377 families, and 1655 individuals. The market day is Tuesday. There are three fairs in the year ; two of which are kept in the town, and one in the church-yard of Holy Cross : the first is held on Tuesday in Easter week ; the second on the 26th of June ; and the third on the Tuesday before All Saints.

It had once a right of sending members to parliament. In the 23d of Edw. 1st, William de Senecourt, and Henry de la Bryght, were returned. It is 102 measured miles from London, and 9 from Worcester.

Here was a famous abbey founded by Egelward, duke of Dorset, about an hundred years before the conquest. Edward, the confessor, gave half the town of Pershore to the abbot of Westminster, which probably he took from the abbey of Pershore. Henry the third, Edward the second, Henry the fifth, and many private persons were considerable benefactors ; all which donations were confirmed by Henry sixth, in the 31st year of his reign.

In the year, 1287, an accidental fire reduced to ashes the abbey, and almost all the town ; the former, however, soon recovered, and instead of being built with timber as before, was afterwards made of beautiful hewn stone.

The present church is part of the conventual one which belonged to monks of the order of St. Benedict ; it is now from North to South about 87 feet, from East to West about 100 : The church of which this is only a part, extended towards the West about 90 feet more, and had several chapels to the North and South, which are now destroyed.



A View of EVERSHAM, from Bengworth lays.

Published as the Act directs Sep: 1779: And sold by Tho: Sanders Engraver Worcester.

EVELSHAM; Or, EOVELSHAM;

So called from *Eoves*, a Swine Herd of St. Egwin.

THIS town may date its origin from the famous abbey, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, founded here about the year 709, by Egwin the third Bishop of Worcester, before which it was famous only as a place of solitude and retirement; the abbey grew so rapidly, that in 714 it possessed many manors and towns, from 941 to 960 the secular canons were in possession: afterwards it became a mitred abbey, and possessed by the Benedictines: not long before the dissolution of religious houses, it was one of the largest and most stately abbeys in the kingdom, comprehending within its limits two parish churches; there belonged to it 79 religious persons and 65 servants. At the dissolution it was valued at 1133l. 12s. 9d. according to Dugdale; and according to Speed 1268l. 9s. 9d. a year. The arms were azure, a chain between three mitres, argent.

After the foundation of the abbey, the town grew in proportion, and two bailiffs governed it under the abbot in civil cases; King James the First, at the request of his son Prince Henry, granted a charter and incorporated the townsmen, by the stile of mayor, high steward, recorder, chamberlain, seven aldermen (of whom four are justices of the peace) twelve capital burgeses, and twenty-four assistants: they hold sessions and try felonies and treasons: the town of Bengeworth is incorporated with Evelham, and both constitute one borough.

It returns two members to parliament, has a weekly market on Monday, and three fairs in the year; February the second, Whit-Monday, and September the tenth; it is 95 measured miles from London, and 16 from Worcester.

The parish of All Saints, contains 253 families, and 1052 individuals. St. Lawrence contains 190 families and 796 individuals.

The famous battle of Evelham was fought, August 5, 1265, a little to the North of the town, where the power of Simon de Montfort and the barons was broke, and they totally defeated by Prince Edward, afterwards King Edward the First.

The town has some manufacture in stockings and woollen caps, but the chief trade is garden stuff, which they carry to very distant markets, and the return in money to this town is supposed to be above 10,000l. a year.